



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Committee Bill No. 937

LCO No. 5188

05188SB00937PS_

Referred to Committee on Public Safety and Security

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING MILITARY PERSONNEL QUALITY OF LIFE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) There is established
2 an Office of Military Affairs within the Department of Economic and
3 Community Development for administrative purposes only. The
4 Office of Military Affairs shall promote and coordinate state-wide
5 activities that enhance the quality of life of all branches of military
6 personnel and their families and to expand the military and homeland
7 security presence in this state.

8 (b) The Governor, in consultation with the Commissioner of
9 Economic and Community Development, shall appoint an executive
10 director to manage the daily activities and duties of the Office of
11 Military Affairs. Within available appropriations, the executive
12 director shall: (1) Appoint, employ and remove such assistants,
13 employees and personnel as deemed necessary for the efficient and
14 effective administration of the activities of the office; (2) coordinate
15 state and local efforts to prevent the closure or downsizing of
16 Connecticut military facilities, particularly United States Naval
17 Submarine Base-New London, located in Groton; (3) maximize the

18 state's input into the federal Base Realignment and Closure or "BRAC"
19 process, including, but not limited to, (A) acting as liaison to the state's
20 congressional delegation on defense, military and BRAC issues, and
21 (B) acting as liaison to consultant lobbyists hired by the state to assist
22 in monitoring activities related to BRAC; (4) encourage the relocation
23 of military missions to the state; (5) coordinate state and local efforts to
24 enhance the quality of life of all branches of military personnel and
25 their families living or working in Connecticut; (6) review and make
26 recommendations for state policies that affect Connecticut's military
27 facilities and defense and homeland security industries; (7) coordinate
28 state, regional and local efforts to encourage the growth of
29 Connecticut's defense and homeland security industry; (8) support the
30 development of a Defense and Homeland Security Industry Cluster;
31 (9) establish and coordinate a Connecticut Military and Defense
32 Advisory Council to provide technical advice and assistance; (10)
33 oversee the implementation of recommendations of the Governor's
34 Commission for the Economic Diversification of Southeastern
35 Connecticut; and (11) prepare and submit a report of activities,
36 findings and recommendations annually to the Governor and the joint
37 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
38 matters relating to public safety and the select committee of the
39 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to veterans'
40 affairs, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
41 general statutes.

42 Sec. 2. Section 4-5 of the general statutes is repealed and the
43 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

44 As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head"
45 means Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,
46 Commissioner of Administrative Services, Commissioner of Revenue
47 Services, Banking Commissioner, Commissioner of Children and
48 Families, Commissioner of Consumer Protection, Commissioner of
49 Correction, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,
50 State Board of Education, Commissioner of Emergency Management

51 and Homeland Security, Commissioner of Environmental Protection,
 52 Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health,
 53 Insurance Commissioner, Labor Commissioner, Liquor Control
 54 Commission, Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services,
 55 Commissioner of Public Safety, Commissioner of Social Services,
 56 Commissioner of Mental Retardation, Commissioner of Motor
 57 Vehicles, Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of Public
 58 Works, Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs, Commissioner of Health
 59 Care Access, Chief Information Officer, the chairperson of the Public
 60 Utilities Control Authority, the executive director of the Board of
 61 Education and Services for the Blind, the executive director of the
 62 Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, [and] the
 63 Ombudsman for Property Rights and the executive director of the
 64 Office of Military Affairs.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	4-5

Statement of Purpose:

To create an Office of Military Affairs to enhance the quality of life of all branches of military personnel and their families and to expand the defense and homeland security presence in the state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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